

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing, retarding or otherwise inhibiting the functional activity of HIV, which HIV has infected a mammalian host cell, said method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of HMA or DMA an agent for a time and under conditions sufficient to down-regulate a membrane ion channel functional activity of said host cell

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said membrane ion channel is a Vpu ion channel.

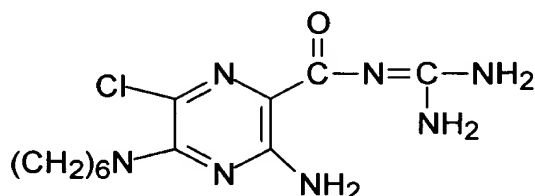
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said HIV functional activity is HIV replication.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3 wherein said host cell is macrophage.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 3 wherein said host cell is a monocyte.

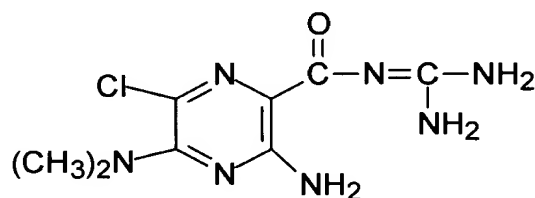
6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 & wherein said HMA comprises the structure.



10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 & wherein said DMA comprises the structure:



12. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of HIV infection or AIDS in a mammal said method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of HMA or DMA ~~an agent~~ for a time and under conditions sufficient to down-regulate the Vpu ion channel functional activity of an HIV infected mammalian host cell, wherein said Vpu functional activity reduces, retards or otherwise inhibits the functional activity of said HIV.

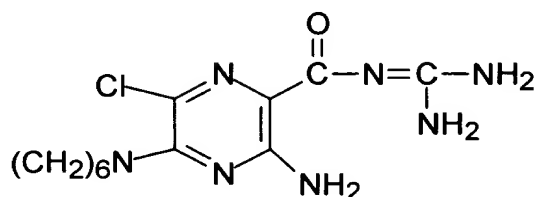
13. (Original) The method according to claim 12 wherein said HIV functional activity is HIV replication.

14. (Original) The method to claim 13 wherein said host cell is a macrophage.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14 wherein said host cell is a monocyte.

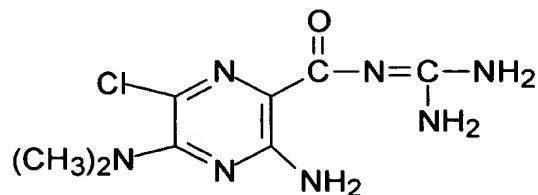
16-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12 ~~18~~ wherein said HMA comprise the structure:



20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12 ~~20~~ wherein said DMA comprises the structure:



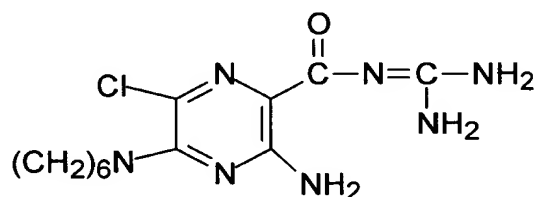
22-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) The method of reducing, retarding or otherwise inhibiting Vpu ion channel functional activity in a subject said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of HMA or DMA ~~an amiloride analogue or functional equivalent thereof~~ for a time and under conditions sufficient to inhibit Vpu ion channel functional activity.

31. (Original) The method according to claim 30 wherein said Vpu ion channel functional activity is Vpu ion channel mediation of HIV replication.

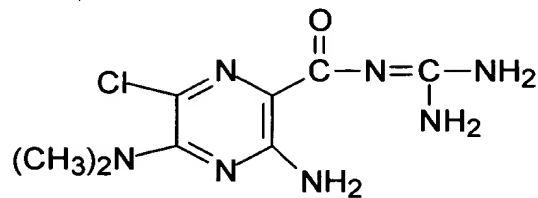
32-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30 ~~33~~ wherein said HMA comprises the structure:



35. (Canceled)

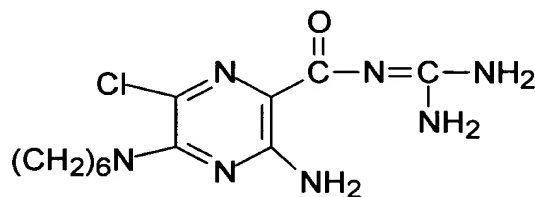
36. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30 ~~35~~ wherein said DMA comprises the structure:



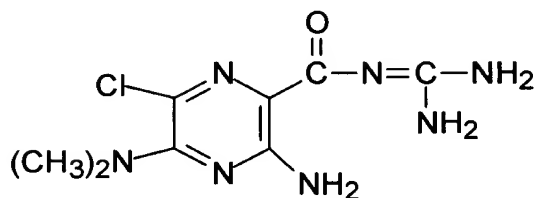
37-54. (Canceled)

55. (New) An antiviral composition for use in reducing, retarding or otherwise inhibiting Vpu ion channel functional activity, said composition comprising an effective amount of HMA or DMA and one or more pharmaceutical acceptable carriers and/or diluents, wherein the composition has an antiviral effect.

56. (New) The antiviral composition of claim 55, wherein said HMA comprises the structure:



57. (New) The antiviral composition of claim 55, wherein said DMA comprises the structure:



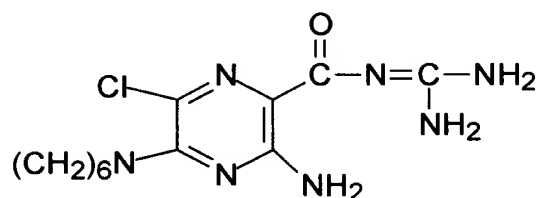
58. (New) A method of reducing, retarding or otherwise inhibiting the functional activity of HIV, which HIV has infected a mammalian host cell, said method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of HMA or DMA for a time and under conditions sufficient to reduce, retard or otherwise inhibit the functional activity of HIV in said host cell.

59. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein said HIV functional activity is HIV replication.

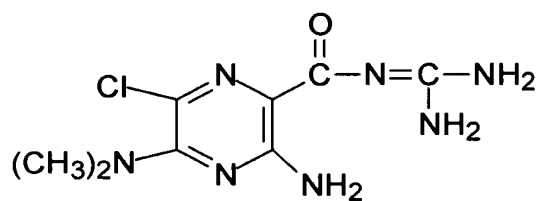
60. (New) The method according to claim 59, wherein said host cell is a macrophage.

61. (New) The method according to claim 59, wherein said host cell is a monocyte.

62. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein said HMA comprises the structure:

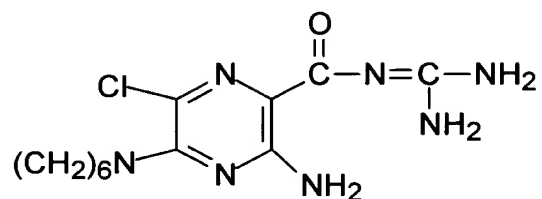


63. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein said DMA comprises the structure:



64. (New) A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of HIV infection or AIDS in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of HMA or DMA.

65. (New) The method according to claim 64, wherein said HMA comprises the structure:



66. (New) The method according to claim 64, wherein said DMA comprises the structure:

